

I have in the employ of the Indian department only one person, Luke Murry, as interpreter, a native of St. Louis county, State of Missouri, aged 51 years, at a salary of \$500 per annum, who was appointed on the 15th of August, 1861.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM F. M. ARMY,
United States Indian Agent.

JAMES L. COLLINS, Esq.,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

UTAH SUPERINTENDENCY.

No. 49.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Utah Territory, June 30, 1861.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a return of the property, accounts current, abstracts of expenditures, and vouchers for the Indian service connected with this superintendency for the quarters ending March 31 and June 30, 1861. In closing my connexion with the service as its principal officer in this Territory, I submit this my annual report.

As stated in a previous report, I arrived here on the 11th day of November, 1860. The time for active farming operations had expired, and winter in this region had set in. The farms at the San Pete, Corn Creek, Deep Creek, and Ruby Valley reserves had been abandoned by my predecessor and gone to ruin; and the various tribes attached thereto had wandered off and returned to their mountain haunts. Scarcely a vestige of the improvements once existing on the several reserves was visible; and to do anything of value at farming on them was, at that season of the year, impracticable. The Indians, except those in charge of Agent Humphreys, at the Spanish Fork reserve, who had a supply of wheat raised there by his industry, were in a state of nakedness and starvation, destitute of shelter, and dying of want; and as nothing could be done on the farms, and assurances having been given me by the Secretary of the Interior and his excellency the President, in person, that I should be supplied with means six months in advance, according to my estimates furnished, I appropriated all the means at my command towards relieving their immediate personal necessities, diverting a large portion of the funds designed for other uses to this particular purpose, and proceeded without delay to furnish the necessary supplies and make distributions.

Owing to a previous state of facts, known to the department, the Indians had lost confidence in the government and people of the United States, had become vicious and spiteful; emigrants had been robbed, our countrywomen outraged; families slaughtered, mothers and their little children carried away in captivity, and even the express riders and carriers of the United States mails had been attacked and murdered. Concerning the causes which led to this deplorable state of affairs, it does not become me to speak; suffice it, that such was the state of facts when I came to this Territory in charge of the Indian service. On these accounts the white inhabitants of the Territory had been subjected to insults, thefts, threats, intrusions, and other outrages from them, and these citizens were urgent in appeals for the interference and protection of the government.

I immediately after my arrival despatched messengers among the different bands, and invited them to meet me in council at the most practicable points; and having met and made distributions amongst those nearest this city, I arranged for an expedition among the Goshu-Utes, Pah-Vantes, Shoshonees, Tosawitches, and others along the California mail road for a distance of four hundred miles west of this city. No agents being in the Territory except W. H. Rogers, esq.,

who lay at the point of death and could not be consulted on any subject, and no reports of estimated expenditures at the different reserves having been made to me, I prepared estimates on the best data within my reach, and caused the same to be forwarded to the department by mail on the 27th day of November, 1860, and the same day started on my contemplated journey westward. My outfit consisted of the ambulance and baggage wagon attached to this superintendency, each drawn by four mules, two wagons, drawn by four and six mules, laden with flour, bacon, coffee, sugar, material for lodges, or wipkrupts, (as they call them,) blankets, shirts, coats, pants, hats, boots, shoes, stockings, women's dresses, handkerchiefs, tobacco, ammunition, trinkets, &c., &c.; one guide, two guards and herders of stock, and one cook, who, together with the teamsters and myself, constituted seven men, four vehicles, and twenty-one animals. Messengers preceding me convened the different bands, after much exposure and labor, at Deep creek, Shell creek, Spring Valley Buttes, Ruby valley, and other places along my route, where I held councils, made feasts, and distributed presents, which sent gladness to their hearts, and I have no doubt saved hundreds of lives among the naked, miserable, and wretched inhabitants of these desolate wilds. The absence of every living thing (save the poor Indian) from these dreary wastes adds to its solitude, and the fierce winds, driving snows, terrible storms, and intense cold that prevail here in the winter season, render such a journey as this so hazardous and full of peril that my return to Great Salt Lake City in thirty-eight days from the time of starting (having travelled eight hundred miles, over mountains, through deserts, among hostile savages, and sleeping all the time out of doors upon the frozen ground without tents) was a matter of surprise to the most experienced and fearless mountaineers.

The poverty, misery, and wretchedness of the poor creatures, men, women, and children, who crowded the wayside on my return trip to shake hands and beg me to "come again soon with presents from the great chief at Washington," is beyond conception, much less description; and their number, I regret to say, is much larger than previously estimated. Two or three flocks of the mallard duck, which we scared up from some of the warm sulphur springs, and a few rabbits, were all the game we saw during the whole journey.

At some of these springs were immense quantities of dark-colored fish, called "the chub," about four inches in length, which the Indians used to eat in winter, but the overland California mail company has built stations for their convenience, and located men and quartered stock about these spots, and the Indians no longer visit them. No sign of antelope, deer, mountain sheep, elk, not so much as a prairie dog, weasel, bear, buffalo, or anything except wolves, was discovered; and at Spring valley I found a family broiling a wolf to eat. Indians generally have a tradition that good braves, after death, go to happy hunting grounds, and bad ones enter into wolves and roam over the earth as a punishment for their wickedness. Hence the wolf is an object of religious veneration, and its life is held sacred. But the raging hunger of the poor creatures in these regions forces them to yield to its demands at the risk of future punishment, and they devour the wolf, entrails and their contents, as they did the beef cattle I caused to be slaughtered for them. They are the only Indians known who eat the wolf (or riota, as they call it.) As an experiment, we camped at one of these springs and caught some of the fish with a hook and line, which we cooked for supper; but either the poor quality of the fish or our bad cooking caused them to be a very tasteless and indifferent article of food. Stock will not drink the water of these springs, because of its sulphuric and other medical properties. Further west, and in the northern and eastern portion of this Territory, there are fine fish and large lakes of excellent water. Provo lake, thirty miles south of the Great Salt lake, has abounded in fish, but they are now scarce there, and but few find their way down the river Jordan, the outlet by means of which this lake empties itself into the Great Salt lake, which latter is not inhabited

by fish or fowl. It is said that three barrels of the water of this lake will make one of pure salt by the simple process of boiling. In my first interview with the Indians of this superintendency, I found them timid, reserved, suspicious, sullen, and repulsive. A better acquaintance secured their confidence, and I flatter myself with the belief that I am respected by them, and command a controlling influence over them, as far as I am known among them. In pursuance of my plan previously communicated to the department, to organize the detached and scattered bands of Goshu-Utes under one common head, the Chief Ads-Sin, I made arrangements to reach and bring in all the petty chiefs of that once powerful tribe, with their followers, who kept secreted in the mountains and deserts; and Green Jacket, Teekutup, Jack, Tabby, and their bands, have travelled hundreds of miles to see me, and have spent several days each at my quarters.

Wonibijinnu, the famous mountain robber, refusing to come, was strategically seized by my directions and brought many miles on his way to this city, when he turned upon his captors and was killed, which is approved by the Indians and whites generally. This tribe will hereafter, in my opinion, remain rejuvenated and united, under their former chief, "Old Ibun." One of this tribe was missing from about the Willow Spring mail station last fall, and they strongly suspect he has been murdered by the employés there. Others were missing shortly after, in a similar way, about Grantsville, in Lovely valley, and the whites there are suspected of having put them out of the way. The Indians have instituted diligent search and made some threats, but unless new aggravations transpire, I presume there is no special danger to be apprehended from those causes.

The immense depth of the snow, which in some places was said to be as much as fifty feet, rendered locomotion with wheeled vehicles impracticable, and although I ventured as far as the safety of my animals and men permitted, I was forced to confine my operations principally to the bands and tribes who came from necessity by hundreds to visit me at my quarters. Including those whom I have visited and the multitudes that have congregated around my quarters, I have seen and made liberal distribution of presents among every tribe and band in this Territory, except those in Carson valley and certain remote bands on the head of the Humboldt river and Goose creek. The chiefs and principal men, with their families, have spent some time with me, and I have conversed fully with them, through my excellent interpreter, Mr. Dimmick B. Huntington, who has lived here twenty years, converses freely in each language, is well known by every band and chief throughout the Territory, and wields great influence over them all. In these conversations I discovered that they had a suspicion that it was the policy of the whites to populate their country and drive them into the big waters west of them, and some trouble may be anticipated in attempts to negotiate the purchase of their lands by treaty or otherwise. Most of the soil susceptible of cultivation is now settled and occupied by white persons, and the tide of population, attracted hither by the peculiar religious notions of the settlers of this Territory, will soon leave but little space for the poor Indian. I have again to urge the importance of extending the limits of the reserve at Ruby valley and Deep creek, (or Ibimpah) so as to embrace the whole of said valleys, and that surveys of the same be immediately made and their boundaries regularly designated. I also recommend the establishment of reserves and farms for the Snakes (Wash-akeis band and Bannacks) on Green river, three hundred miles east of this city, and also for the Weber-Utes, Little Soldier's band, on Weber river. For the various bands of Utes, Pah-Utes, Pah-vants, and others who congregate at the Spanish Fork farm, I recommend the establishment of a reserve, including the whole of Winter valley in addition to the Spanish fork, Corn creek, and San Pete reserve. As the sum appropriated for the Indian service in this Territory is only about forty thousand dollars per annum, I beg

to suggest that the amount expended in cultivating cereals is disproportionate to what should be invested in raising cattle, and supplying clothing.

These are unquestionably the poorest Indians on the continent. There is no game to subsist them, and from the nature of the country there never can be. Animals whose nature it is to inhabit forests will not abide in the beds of saleratus and on the barren rocks and dismal wastes of this insalubrious clime. If the system of cultivating grain be so modified as to substitute in part the raising of cattle for the subsistence of the Indians, it will operate beneficially in various respects. The Indian is by nature a herdsman, and he will readily fall in with the idea of taking care of cattle in preference to performing the more civilized labor of the farm. Besides, it is their nature to need meat. When fed on flour without meat for any length of time, they become diseased, and a change from that to meat will soon restore them to their wonted health. Owing to the difficulty of getting beef, I have tried to substitute the use of bacon. During last winter starvation compelled many of them to eat it, but some had to be supplied with beef. If four or five thousand dollars were invested in yearling heifers, and proper care were taken of them on the different reserves, beneficial results would soon follow. The plan of making up the goods designed to clothe them into garments, such as are worn by white persons, male and female, operates finely, and cannot be too strongly recommended. They are well pleased at being dressed like citizens, and it tends to make them more cleanly and careful of their person and their clothing, and the cost of making is saved by the less quantity necessary to be given. It also has the effect of preventing them from trading off their garments, which is invariably practiced when the raw material is given them. The destitution of these Indians and the excessive severity of the wintry seasons cause much sickness, especially inflammatory and pulmonary diseases, among them.

Great suffering and many deaths transpire, which might be mitigated, and perhaps prevented, by proper medical treatment. Syphilis prevails to a fearful extent among the Pah-vants and Pi-utes, which it is said they contract among the Navajoes, with whom they do much trading. I recommend the appointment of an experienced physician, whose duty it shall be to render medical assistance to all who may need it within this superintendency. Owing to the high price of everything in this remote region, and the laborious, perilous, and self-sacrificing labor of the office attached to the Indian service here, I submit that their compensation is inadequate, and recommend that their salaries be increased. The pay of the superintendent should be three thousand dollars, and that of each agent, two thousand dollars. From the best information I can obtain from traders, mountaineers, travellers, and other persons, I presume there are some twenty thousand souls embraced within the jurisdiction of this superintendency. I have, therefore, to submit that an appropriation of forty thousand dollars per annum is quite insufficient for their wants. After deducting salaries of officers, their incidental expenses, pay of farm agents, other employés, and incidental expenditures of the reserve, but little is left for clothing, which is more needed among them than anything else. To put the Ruby Valley reserve in successful operation will require—

At least.....	\$7,000 00
Deep Creek or Ibimpah.....	7,000 00
Corn Creek.....	4,000 00
San Pete.....	4,000 00
To open a farm on Weber for Little Soldier's Utes.....	8,000 00
To open a farm on Green River for Wash-a-kees, Snakes.....	10,000 00
Besides what may be necessary to make repairs and carry on the Spanish Fork and Carson Valley farms, which may perhaps require	10,000 00
Making in the aggregate.....	\$60,000 00

Add to this for clothing, blankets, lodges, arms, ammunition, &c.,
two dollars per capita..... \$40,000 00

And we have an aggregate of 100,000 00
which would not be more than might be judiciously and beneficially expended
the ensuing year.

Labor, provisions, and articles of merchandise of any description are exceedingly high in this country, and difficult to be had at any price.

No reports have been received during the year from the Spanish fork of Carson Valley agencies. The agents, it seems, are required to report to the Commissioner at Washington, instead of the superintendent.—(See accompanying correspondence between Agent Humphreys and this office, marked A and B, herewith presented.)

In consequence of no response being made to my request for funds, as expressed in my letter to the Commissioner, dated November 26, and mailed November 27, 1860, I addressed him a second letter, on the same subject, dated January 21, 1861, urging an immediate remittance. No response of any sort came to any of these communications, and no funds being furnished me, I have been unable to do anything in the way of farming at any of the reserves; and refer to the separate reports of the agents for further information on this subject.

The dreaded and vicious Snake Digger chief, San Pitch, and his large band, who occupy the country north and along the Oregon line, who are suspected of murdering the company of emigrants last fall, on the Snake river, visited my quarters during the last spring, and informed me that there were several children of those emigrants still alive, and held in captivity by the Bannacks, on the Humboldt river, or in the Goose Creek mountains, west. I appointed Mr. Henrie M. Chase, an experienced and reliable mountaineer, a special agent, and despatched him in pursuit of these captive children, subject to the approval of the department, and with instructions to report to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. San Pitch and his band promised faithfully to render Mr. Chase all the assistance in their power in accomplishing the object of his mission, and pledged their honor to commit no more murders or robberies on emigrants travelling through their country, which pledge I believe they will faithfully observe, if not instigated by indiscreet persons attached to these companies, or bad white men inhabiting these mountains.

The Indians of Utah, although the poorest and most helpless on the continent, are not so demoralized and corrupted as those who have been brought into closer association with white men in other localities. Infidelity of the wife, or prostitution of an unmarried female, is punishable by death, and but few such acts transpire among them. If the fostering care of the government be liberally extended towards them, proper care and management can and will ultimately bring them under full subjection to the rules and amenities of civilized life.

No farming being carried on at Deep Creek reserve, I did not continue Farm-agent Seven in the service, but owing to the peculiar influence of Farm-Agent Rogers, at Ruby valley, over the Indians, I retained him at a compensation of six hundred dollars per annum. I also retained Jesse Bishop, at the Spanish Fork reserve, at one thousand dollars per annum. The presence of these two useful men at the points designated has exerted a salutary influence upon the Indian mind.

My attention has been directed to generalities and details. Nothing have I omitted which was practicable with the means under my control. The failure of the departure to supply me the means necessary, prevented me from accomplishing anything of importance in farming operations.

The Indians are now all peaceable and entirely friendly with the whites, and

are likely to remain so, unless the interference of white men causes disturbances to spring up among them.

Your obedient servant,

BENJAMIN DAVIES,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Utah Territory.

Hon. WM. P. DOLE,

*Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.*

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Great Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, April 20, 1861.

SIR: No official returns of property or accounts have been made to this office by you from the reserves in your charge and under your control; and as I desire to make a complete and full report of all property and proceedings connected with this superintendency to the Indian department at Washington city, I have respectfully to request that you be pleased to furnish me a detailed account of your proceedings as agent for the Corn Creek, San Pete, and Spanish Fork reserves for the third and fourth quarters of 1860 and the first and second quarters of 1861 up to date, together with an accurate list of all the property belonging thereto, at your earliest convenience.

Your obedient servant,

BENJAMIN DAVIES,

Superintendent, &c.

A. HUMPHREYS, Esq.,

Indian Agent, &c.

SPANISH FORK INDIAN AGENCY,
Utah Territory, April 28, 1861.

SIR: Your letter of the 20th instant is received, and for answer I have to say that any reports of official action as Indian agent for the Spanish Fork, Corn Creek, and San Pete reserves have heretofore been made directly to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and I am expected to continue to do so in future, according to my understanding of recent instructions given to me by him. This I presume renders it unnecessary for me to comply with the request contained in your letter of the above date.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HUMPHREYS,

Indian Agent.

B. DAVIES, Esq.,

Superintendent, &c.

No. 50.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Great Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, October 1, 1861.

SIR: In accordance with a regulation of the Indian department, requiring me to make an annual report of the situation of affairs in this superintendency, and to prepare estimates for the guidance of Congress in making annual appropriations for the support of the Indians in this Territory, I have the honor herewith to transmit to you my first annual report.

I regret that my arrival in this Territory being of so recent a date, August 6, 1861, rendered it impossible for me to ascertain, as fully as I could wish, the exact condition of all the different bands of Indians in my superintendency.

I have, however, been as diligent as circumstances would permit in finding out, from personal examination and reliable information from parties in whom I place confidence, the wants and necessities of most of the tribes and bands of Indians placed in my charge, and am sorry to say that I found them in a very poor condition, both as regards a sufficient supply of clothing to protect them from the severity of the weather in this mountainous country, and the necessary amount of food to keep them from actual starvation.

Too little attention, I am fearful, has heretofore been paid to the fact that there is very little game in this Territory, of any description, which the Indians can kill to keep them in food. There is no buffalo whatever that range in this Territory, and very few antelope, elk, deer, mountain sheep, or bear, and these only in certain localities.

Civilization seems to have had the same effect here as has been noticed elsewhere in this country since the first settlement by our forefathers, in driving before it the game natural to a wilderness, and the Indians complain bitterly that since the white man has come among them their game has almost entirely disappeared from their former hunting-grounds, and they are now obliged either to beg food from the white settlers or starve.

The driving away of the buffalo not only deprives them of their principal supply of food, but also of a great source of revenue and comfort in the skins, which they sold and used to keep them comfortable in cold weather.

I have had more applications from Indians for beef and flour since I have been here than anything else. They frequently come to me and fairly beg for some beef, to keep their squaws and papooses from starving.

Owing to the limited amount of money placed in my hands, I have been unable to entirely satisfy their demands, but I am confident that what I have distributed in that way has been a great deal more satisfactory to the Indians than three times the amount expended in any kind of trinkets usually disbursed by the department would have been.

The annual appropriation for this superintendency has, in my opinion, always been too small to allow the superintendent and agents to give that satisfaction to the Indians which their wants demand, and a proper regard for the rights and safety of the white settlers, by preventing depredations, requires.

The establishment of the overland daily mail and telegraph lines, and their recent completion through this Territory—consummations of such vital importance to the people throughout the Union—render it necessary that steps should be immediately taken by the government to prevent the possibility of their being interrupted by the Indians.

On this subject I have taken much pains to consult with most of the leading men connected with these great enterprises, and also with nearly all of the head chiefs of the Indians that range on their lines in this Territory, and have, after mature deliberation, come to the conclusion that the only manner in which this can be effected to the entire satisfaction and protection of all the parties concerned, is by a treaty between the United States and the tribes of Indians ranging in this superintendency.

In recent consultations or "talks" with Wash-a-kee and Sho-kub, the head chiefs of the Shoshones or Snake Indians, Navacoots and Pe-tut-neet, chiefs of the Ute nation, and many of the sub-chiefs of both nations, I find that they are unanimously in favor of a treaty with the United States, and agree with me in considering that to be the only effectual way to check the stealing propensities of some of their Indians; and from information gleaned from them on various occasions, I have made the following memorandum in regard to the probable cost and effect of a treaty.

They express their willingness to cede to the United States all the lands they claim in this Territory, with the exception of reservations necessary for their homes; and ask, in return, that the United States shall make them annual presents of blankets, beads, paint, calico, ammunition, &c., with occasional supplies of beef and flour sufficient to make them comfortable, which I estimate can be done with a small addition to the usual appropriation.

They seem fully to understand the nature and effect of a treaty, and the chiefs agree to hold themselves responsible for any depredations committed by any of their bands, if a treaty should be made, by deducting the amount of damage done from the annuity paid them.

I cannot too strongly recommend this course to the department, and sincerely hope that it will meet with that prompt attention that, to my mind, the importance of the subject entitles it.

I had expected on my arrival in this city, and after assuming the duties of this office, to find matters in a shape that I could immediately proceed to the discharge of my duty towards the Indians, but was very much disappointed; and instead of finding an office properly in order, with facilities for doing business, I could find nothing but a few bundles of old papers to show that there had ever been a superintendent in the Territory.

This state of affairs necessarily delayed my intercourse with the Indians until I could procure an office and the fixtures necessary to do business with, which, owing to the exorbitant price charged for everything in this country, and the scarcity of material to manufacture office furniture, delayed me much longer than I had anticipated.

I have, however, succeeded in establishing an office here in a becoming and comfortable style, at an expense much less than has heretofore been allowed for that purpose.

As soon as practicable after my arrival here, I made a visit to the Spanish Fork Indian farm and reservation, in order to ascertain from personal observation the extent of the improvements there, and estimate the amount necessary to carry on farming operations for the benefit of the Indians at that place. The former agent, Mr. Humphreys, had left only a short time before, and there was no one living on the farm at the time of my visit. I found everything in a very dilapidated condition, the place having been cleared of everything that was salable, to buy food for the Indians that congregate around there. Mr. Humphreys had done everything in his power to keep them from suffering, and being short of money, in order to feed them, he was obliged to sell everything movable on the farm, which accounted for the deplorable state in which I found it.

The dam on the Spanish Fork river, which furnishes water to the canal on the farm used for the purpose of irrigating the land, is very badly out of repair, and will require some three thousand dollars (\$3,000) expended upon it to put it in a condition for available use, and about a thousand dollars (\$1,000) will be needed to repair the fences, corral, &c., on the farm.

I would recommend the appropriation of these amounts, for the purposes specified, in order to place the farm in a condition to be properly worked next season.

Mr. Hatch, successor of Mr. Humphreys, has just arrived here, and gone to his agency on this farm, and unless some immediate provision is made for repairing the dam, fences, and stocking the farm, there will be nothing for him to do at that agency this winter.

The Corn Creek Indian farm is so far removed from this city, (150 miles,) that I have been unable, for want of time, to make a visit to it myself; but, desiring to be able to report to you the condition of affairs there, I despatched a special agent, Mr. Dymon S. Wood, a very honest and reliable man, to that place, to ascertain what improvements, &c., had been made, and what was needed there, and the following is a copy of his report to me:

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH TERRITORY,

October 1, 1861.

SIR: In compliance with your request, received on the 27th ultimo, (through Mr. Atwood,) I proceeded immediately to the Corn Creek Indian reservation, in Millard county, in this Territory, and examined the Indian farm on said reservation.

The farm, however, is not enclosed with a fence, as I had previously supposed. The Indians have been compelled to herd their stock, to keep it, as well as many of the horses and cattle belonging to the whites, running in that vicinity, from destroying their crops; in which case they have been known to shoot arrows, wounding some and killing others of those belonging to the whites.

There are no improvements upon the farm whatever, further than ploughing, except a small double log cabin, very much out of repair. The facilities, however, for fencing are very good, as good cedar timber can be procured at a distance of from three to four miles. This could be accomplished at a cost of about two dollars per rod.

In my opinion, the amount of land that would be requisite, and should be fenced, for the demands of the Indians there, would not exceed one hundred acres.

There are two yoke of oxen, belonging to the government, now in the hands of Mr. Peter Robinson, who is acting temporary agent of this farm. With the assistance of these, together with some nine or ten old spades and shovels, they have managed to raise about two hundred bushels of wheat, and two hundred and fifty bushels of corn the present year, without any further assistance on the part of the government.

These Indians, the Pah-Utes, are very industrious, and solicit the aid of the government, in the strongest terms, in their behalf. They complain most bitterly of your predecessors holding out inducements, and making them many promises which they never fulfilled.

If any Indians are entitled to and merit the aid of the government, they are these.

I was further informed that Major Humphreys had taken away many of the implements, such as ploughs, hoes, harrows, and wagons, from this as well as the San Pete Indian reservation, and disposed of them. This has quite discouraged the poor Indians, which causes them to ask if the great father has thrown them away.

Kanosh, their chief, together with some of his men, have now gone to the Navajoes, on a trading expedition, leaving others of his band to thresh and save their grain.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

DYMAN S. WOOD.

Major H. MARTIN,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Utah Territory.

The San Pete Indian farm I have been unable to visit, but have information through Mr. Peter Boyce, a very respectable, and, I learn, a reliable man, who resides near there, that everything there is in a destitute condition.

He thinks that about a thousand dollars, judiciously expended in agricultural implements and repairs, would put the farm in a condition to be of much benefit to the Indians in that section.

He also states that the Indians there are a very peaceable and industrious people, and express a strong desire to do something for themselves in the way of farming, and, he thinks, with proper encouragement on the part of the government, they could be made quite comfortable and contented.

The remaining reservations in the Territory I have not had time to visit, and know nothing in regard to them that would be of service to the department.

The Indians in Ruby valley, on the mail and telegraph lines, west of here, that range near the reservation there, are quite a numerous band, under chief Sho-kub, and are known as the Ruby Valley Snakes.

Their chief, Sho-kub, visited me a short time since, and I learned from him that his bands were much in need of provisions and blankets; the former, especially, on account of the monopoly of the grass in their country by the mail company to feed their stock, which deprived them of the seed which they have heretofore used as an article of food. I am now preparing to make a trip to that section, for the purpose of relieving their immediate wants, and learning more in regard to them.

I have in my possession quite a number of claims against the United States government for depredations committed by the Indians on the white settlers in this Territory, and for articles furnished and services rendered to former superintendents and agents.

I am, according to instructions received from the Indian department, investigating thoroughly into their justice and validity, and will soon report on them, sending the claims to the department to be acted upon.

The goods sent me by the department for distribution among the Indians in this superintendency will fall far short of the amount requisite to keep the Indians from actual suffering this winter, especially the number of blankets, thirteen hundred and sixty-two being the total number sent.

This number, it will readily be perceived, will not begin to be a sufficient supply.

I have already disbursed nearly the whole number, and have yet to supply several large bands, besides the straggling Indians that are constantly calling on me.

I shall soon be obliged to purchase more of these important articles, besides a quantity of ammunition, lead, &c., in order to deal fairly with the Indians, and keep them from suffering.

The total number of Indians in this superintendency at the present time, as near as I can get at it from information in my possession, will not fall short of fifteen thousand, (15,000;) and taking into consideration the protection of the mail and telegraph lines, matters of great importance to the whole country, and in a great measure supplying the Indians in the Territory with beef and flour, in addition to the usual amount of presents given them, I would earnestly recommend an appropriation of not less than sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000) for the ensuing year, in order to be able to accomplish these objects and keep a free and uninterrupted intercourse between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts through this country.

Hoping the department will approve of the course so far pursued by me in this superintendency, and consider that the recommendation I have made in this report are the conclusions of mature deliberation, founded on knowledge and belief,

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY MARTIN,

Superintendent.

Hon. WM. P. DOLE,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 51.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Great Salt Lake City, U. T., May 6, 1861.

SIR: For answer to your letter dated May 3, 1861, requesting my opinion concerning the disposal of certain worthless animals, &c., at the various reserves of Corn Creek, San Pete, and Spanish Fork, and the destitution of the Indians thereat, I have to say that I am entirely destitute of funds, and am unable to supply any means to subsist them. Of their destitution I am well advised; and if they are not furnished means to live, they must and will commit depredations to subsist themselves. If the necessary supplies are not furnished me very shortly I shall deem it my duty to repair to the seat of our national government, and lay the state of the case, as existing here before the proper department. In the meantime I have to advise that you sell and dispose of all useless articles first, and resort to every means at your command to feed and preserve quiet and order among them, until headquarters can be heard from.

In case I find it necessary to go to Washington I shall place the entire management of the affairs of this superintendency in your hands, and shall leave you to operate as best you may during my absence. Do your best for all concerned until you hear from me again, which shall be shortly.

With much respect, your servant,

BENJAMIN DAVIES,
Superintendent, &c.

A. HUMPHREYS, Esq.

No. 52.

SPANISH FORK INDIAN RESERVATION,
Utah Territory, July 2, 1861.

SIR: Some of the citizens of this Territory have, within the past fifteen days, caused to be surveyed and located, with the avowed intention of settling and cultivating, a part of this Spanish Fork reservation, my notice to desist to the contrary notwithstanding. You will please instruct me as to the proper course to pursue in the premises. Superintendent Davies having left the Territory for the States some days ago, I send by pony express. Please answer by return.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HUMPHREYS,
Indian Agent, U. T.

WILLIAM P. DOLE, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 53.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
September 30, 1861.

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration this my third annual and final report as Indian agent in Utah Territory.

Referring to my second annual report, dated November 12, 1860, (page 169, Report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1860,) as to the condition of the Indians

in Utah Territory at that time, I now have the honor to submit a few plain facts in connexion therewith, as illustrative of the mutations to which our policy in this regard, not the less rightfully dominant than beneficent, is subjected, and premonitory for information as far as my experience and judgment may render it advantageous.

I am warranted in doing so, from a letter dated July 1, 1861, from Benjamin Davies, superintendent of Indian affairs for Utah Territory, (No. 1, herewith,) instructing me to take charge of the entire superintendency during his absence, and also from the fact that there has been no other agent, besides myself, in the Territory for some time past; and as to a superintendent during the two and a half years of my service as Indian agent, owing to the frequent changes in the superintendency there has not been any over one-third of this time.

The number of Indians in my agency proper is about the same as at my last report. That in the whole Territory is very large. The Indians are exceedingly poor, not less than five hundred of them depending entirely upon the government for food and clothing on account of the almost entire absence of game for them to subsist upon, and absolutely must be cared for and provided with subsistence by the government; and if this be withheld absolute want will impel them to the commission of depredations, and an Indian war will inevitably follow.

Whites (Mormons) have been permitted to take possession of all the valleys in the Territory, wherein, heretofore, the Indians were enabled to procure a subsistence.

It is true, however, that the government has set apart three small reservations, to wit: Spanish Fork, containing about fifteen thousand acres, but surrounded by a large Mormon population, who have no particular regard for the welfare of the Indians, from the fact that they have surveyed said reservation with the avowed intention of taking possession of it, as my letter to the department, dated July 2, 1861, will show, (No. 2, herewith.) Corn Creek reservation is yet small, closely surrounded by white settlements, which renders it very nearly valueless as an Indian reservation, because of the Indians continually coming into contact with the whites. San Pete reservation is worthless, and abandoned by the superintendent in the spring of 1860. Winter valley has been recently set apart for the benefit of the Indians; and a more humane scheme thus proposed could not have been devised by the government. It is, in fact, the only place of resort for a very large number of Indians.

This valley is extensive in size, and fertile. It will make, with the proper improvements, a fine farming country, besides which, part of the Indians will be removed a hundred miles from the white settlements—proving, thereby, beneficial to both races.

It may be proper here to state that there is a question as to whether the government agents will be permitted to hold and occupy this valley as a reservation, notwithstanding the government has set it apart for the benefit of the Indians, for the reason that the Mormon people, on the 5th instant, were sending out a large emigration of settlers for the purpose of taking possession of it, said to be done by the order of President Young, their prophet. If the settlers should persist in its occupation and retention, it will be impossible for the government officials to do anything without sufficient force wherewith to sustain themselves.

Brigham Young is absolute, so also is his decree, the government's wishes to the contrary notwithstanding, unless more loyal counsels should prevail.

There being no superintendent in the Territory from September, 1859, to November, 1860, more than a year, in consequence of Superintendent Forney's removal, and the delay of his successor in reaching his post, Superintendent Forney having left a large amount of debts unpaid, thereby seriously impairing the credit of the department, and being not only without a superintendent but

without funds to carry on the service, I deemed it my duty to, and did, proceed to Washington in person, to lay before the department the deplorable condition thereof in the Territory, and received from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with instructions to return to my agency, five thousand dollars, for the purpose of paying the debts for the fourth quarter of 1860 and first quarter of 1861.

There was a surplus left after paying said debts, but not sufficient for the purpose of cultivating the farms in my agency, and I therefore applied the remainder to the purchase of clothing and food for the Indians, this being necessary from the fact that all the produce raised during the year 1860 had been consumed by employés and Indians.

I was informed by Superintendent Davies, last spring, that he had no funds to furnish me for the purpose of cultivating the farms, and I would, therefore, be compelled to abandon them; and also afterwards instructed me by letter, dated May 6, 1861, (No. 3, herewith,) to dispose of all the government property, for the purpose of supporting the Indians, and supplying the demands upon the service in the Territory.

I did as instructed, and succeeded in keeping the Indians quiet during the past season, and up to the time of my leaving the Territory.

Superintendent Martin having arrived in the Territory in the latter part of last month, (August,) accompanied by Mr. Atwood, the efficient clerk to the superintendency, both of whom promptly entering upon the discharge of the duties newly devolved upon them, thereby relieving me, I left Great Salt Lake City on the 5th instant, for Washington city, bringing with me my accounts for the 4th quarter 1860, and 1st, 2d, and 3d quarters of 1861, for final settlement.

Having done with the limited means at my disposal what I deemed to be right both for the government and the Indians, and feeling the consciousness of self-rectitude in the discharge of all my onerous and burdensome duties imposed by the exigencies resulting from the changes in the superintendency, devolving upon me duties which properly belonged to my superior officers, the predecessors of Mr. Martin, I have the honor to conclude my report by expressing my high regard for the courtesy and kind aid extended to me during my service as Indian agent in Utah Territory by the office of Indian affairs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HUMPHREYS,
Indian Agent, Utah.

Hon. WM. P. DOLE,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.
